

What is claimed is:

1. A remote control method of remote-controlling a data processing device, comprising:

a step, performed by a portable device associated with the data processing device, of sending control data for operating the data processing device to a server via the Internet;

a step, performed by the portable device, of calling the data processing device via a telephone network;

a step, performed by the data processing device, of referring to a caller's number communicated when the current call is accepted, and recognizing, based on the caller's number, whether the call is issued from the portable device associated with the data processing device;

a step, performed by the data processing device, of downloading the control data from the server if the call is issued from the portable device; and

a step, performed by the data processing device, of executing a process indicated by the downloaded control data.

2. A remote control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the portable device is a cellular phone.

3. A remote control system for remote-controlling a data processing device via the Internet, comprising:

a server having a storage device, for receiving, via the Internet, control data by which the data processing device operates and storing the received control data in the

5 storage device, and for sending the stored control data to the data processing device via the Internet according to a request;

a portable device associated with the data processing device, for sending the control data via the Internet to the server, and then calling the data processing device via a telephone network and designating the data processing device to download the control data from the server; and

10 the data processing device for:

recognizing whether the current call is issued from the portable device associated with the data processing device by referring to a caller's number communicated when the call is accepted;

15 sending the server, via the Internet, a request for downloading the control data from the server according to the designation of the portable device if it is recognized that the call is issued from the relevant portable device;

receiving the control data downloaded from the server; and  
operating based on the received control data.

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4. A remote control system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the portable device is a cellular phone.

5. A server for making a portable device remote-control a data processing device via the Internet, comprising:

a memory for storing a program and data for remote-controlling the data processing device; and

5 a processor for receiving, via the Internet, control data by which the data processing device operates from the portable device and storing the received data in a

storage device, and for sending the control data to the data processing device via the Internet according to a request from the data processing device.

6. A data processing device remote-controlled by a portable device, comprising:
  - a memory for storing a program and data for being remote-controlled by the portable device; and
  - a processor for:

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  - recognizing whether a received call is issued from the portable device associated with the data processing device by referring to a caller's number communicated when the call is accepted;
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    - sending a server, via the Internet, a request for downloading the control data from the server according to a designation of the portable device if it is recognized that the call is issued from the relevant portable device;
    - receiving the control data downloaded from the server; and
    - executing a process based on the received control data.

7. A computer readable storage medium storing a program for operating a server provided for controlling a data processing device from a portable device via the Internet, the program including:

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  - a step of receiving, via the Internet, control data by which the data processing device operates from the portable device;
  - a step of storing the received control data in a storage device; and
  - a step for sending the control data to the data processing device via the Internet according to a request from the data processing device.

8. A computer readable storage medium storing a program for operating a data processing device remote-controlled by a portable device, the program including:

a step of recognizing whether a received call is issued from the portable device associated with the data processing device by referring to a caller's number

5 communicated when the call is accepted;

a step of sending a server, via the Internet, a request for downloading control data from the server according to a designation of the portable device if it is recognized that the call is issued from the relevant portable device;

a step of receiving the control data downloaded from the server; and

10 a step of executing a process based on the received control data.